

Uniqueness of the Robotics Academy

Robotics Research

- Participants work in teams on current robotics projects guided by leading researchers at NASA, local universities or industry. Each team is composed of a team lead and three research associates (RAs). The team lead is an advanced undergraduate or graduate student with a curricular background in robotics. The RAs are incoming freshmen or sophomores.

Site Visits

- Participants visit some of the top robotics labs in the nation such as Johnson Space Center Robonaut Lab, the MIT Artificial Intelligence Lab, the Carnegie Mellon University Robotics Institute, and the Jet Propulsion Lab. These visits offer participants exposure to cutting edge robotics research and valuable interaction with world class robotics scientists and engineers.

Lectures:

- The Robotics Academy sponsors a public lecture series featuring prominent researchers from around the country. In addition, local researchers provide more technical and informal dinner lectures at the Robotics House.

Residential

- All participants are housed together in the Robotics House or comparable facilities where they not only learn from each other through informal interaction but also enjoy social and extracurricular activities.

Testimonials

"The NASA Robotics Academy was a great opportunity and opened up the doors for a future career in aerospace. But, even more important than the work are the people involved with this program. It was clear that many lifelong friendships had been made by the end of the summer."

Brandon Phillips
'05 GSFC

"For me, the Robotics Academy has been a way to further my experience with robotics that cannot be found anywhere else. The team projects, lab tours and opportunities for networking are simply amazing and great fun."

Corey Johnson
'05 & '06 GSFC

"This summer has really deepened my knowledge of robotics and has provided me with valuable skills and insight into where it will be headed in the next ten years."

Anahita Karimi
'06 GSFC

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National Aeronautics
and Space Administration



NASA

Robotics Academy



An intensive summer program of higher learning for undergraduate and graduate students interested in pursuing professional and leadership careers in robotics related fields.



www.nasa.gov

What is the NASA Robotics Academy?

A 10 week, residential summer research and educational program for high achieving undergraduate and graduate students interested in robotics.



History

The NASA Robotics Academy was founded in 2005 at the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) with a vision to expand to other NASA centers. The Ames chapter opened in 2006 and other NASA field installations are expected to come on board in the future.

Vision

Robotics plays a critical role in NASA's Space Exploration Vision. The NASA Robotics Academy provides a pathway for students interested in careers in this exciting field.



It can provide a bridge from high school programs such as FIRST, Botball and BEST to continued involvement in robotics research through undergraduate and graduate levels.

Objectives

- To support and enhance NASA's education and research objectives
- To inspire and develop future robotics specialists
- To cultivate and sustain interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields and address the gap in the educational pipeline at the college freshman and sophomore level
- To promote alliances with academic institutions and industry partners

Eligibility

- US citizenship or permanent residency
- Research Associates: Rising college freshman and sophomores
- Team Leads: Junior/senior undergraduates or graduate students
- High academic standing (GPA 3.0 or higher)
- Demonstrated prior involvement in robotics
- Propensity for teamwork

Women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

The Program

Challenging team research on projects of real value to NASA, academia and industry.



Collaborative group project designed and produced by the entire class.



Site visits to world class robotics facilities at NASA centers, universities and industry.

Informal and personal interaction with leaders in robotics.



Public lectures by prominent researchers from around the country.

Posters, oral presentations, reports, proposals, and publications.



To apply to the NASA Robotics Academy, please visit: <http://university.gsfc.nasa.gov/application>